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**Conformity assessment —  
Requirements for bodies providing  
audit and certification of management  
systems —**

Part 13:

**Competence requirements for  
auditing and certification of  
compliance management systems**

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Published in Switzerland

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## Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives) or [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs)).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html). In the IEC, see [www.iec.ch/understanding-standards](http://www.iec.ch/understanding-standards).

This document was prepared by the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO), in collaboration with the ISO Technical Committee ISO/TC 309, *Governance of organizations*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 17021 series can be found on the ISO and IEC websites.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html) and [www.iec.ch/national-committees](http://www.iec.ch/national-committees).

## Introduction

This document complements ISO/IEC 17021-1. In particular, it clarifies the requirements for the competence of personnel involved in the certification process set out in ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015, Annex A. The guiding principles in ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015, Clause 4, are the basis for the requirements in this document.

Certification bodies have a responsibility to interested parties, including their clients and the customers of the organizations whose management systems are certified, to ensure that only those auditors who demonstrate relevant competence are allowed to conduct compliance management system (CMS) audits. It is intended that all personnel involved in CMS auditing and certification possess the generic competencies described in ISO/IEC 17021-1, as well as the specific CMS competencies described in this document. Certification bodies will need to identify the specific audit team competence needed for the scope of each CMS audit.

In this document, the following verbal forms are used:

- “shall” indicates a requirement;
- “should” indicates a recommendation;
- “may” indicates a permission;
- “can” indicates a possibility or a capability.

Further details can be found in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

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